(b) Data on employment and unemployment is available from the labour force sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation.

Increase in the quota of rationed items to West Bengal

2050. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to increase the quota of rationed items to West Bengal owing to acute shortage and increasing prices during the Puja Festival; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b) The allocation of rice, wheat, sugar and edible oils fixed for West Bengal for the months of August and September, 1990 is as follows:—

(Figures in M.Tonnes)

Commodity	August	September
Rice . .	74,000	84,000
Wheat . .	90,000	90,000
Levy Sugar . .	25,888	25,888
Imported Edible Oils	10,000	10,000

An increased allocation of 10 thousand tonnes of rice was made to West Bengal for the month of September, 1990 to meet the additional demand on account of Puja Festival. In case of sugar, a quantity of 3898 tonnes each for the months of September & October, 1990 has been released as Festival quota. For imported edible oils, the monthly allocation of West Bengal during August and September, 1990 is 10,000 tonnes each which is an increase of 4000 tonnes over the July allocation.

Decline in Returns from Wheat Cultivation

2051. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent study undertaken by the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chambers of Commerce and Industry has revealed that returns per hectare from wheat cultivation declined sharply;

(b) if so, the reasons put forward for decline in wheat yield per hectare; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Study does not speak of decline in yield per hectare. The yield of wheat has registered significant increases during the seventies and eighties. In order to further improve productivity, Special Foodgrains Production Programme supplementing the efforts of the State Governments and Minikit Programme of Wheat aimed at enlarging coverage of area under location specific high yielding varieties and adoption of improved wheat production technology in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi are being implemented.

Printed prices on packed items

2052. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices printed on the packed itmes are too far excessive and there is no relation between the cost of the product and the price; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to review the matter and to fix the margins of profit of the manufacturers, wholesalers and retailer to check the rise in prices?